

EXHIBIT P

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO
EASTERN DIVISION

~~~~~

IN RE: NATIONAL PRESCRIPTION MDL No. 2804  
OPIATE LITIGATION

Case No.  
17-md-2804

Judge Dan Aaron  
Polster

This document relates to:

The County of Summit, Ohio, et al. v. Purdue  
Pharma L.P., et al., Case No. 18-OP-45090

The County of Cuyahoga v. Purdue Pharma  
L.P., et al., Case No. 18-OP-45090  
City of Cleveland, Ohio v. Purdue Pharma  
L.P., et al., Case No. 18-OP-45132

~~~~~

Videotaped Deposition of
CHRISTOPHER M. KIPPES

January 18, 2019
1:06 p.m.

Taken at:

Napoli Shkolnik PLLC
55 Public Square, Suite 2100
Cleveland, Ohio 44113

Stephen J. DeBacco, RPR

1 MR. MASON: Marty Mason on behalf
2 of the Plaintiff, also on behalf of Napoli
3 Shkolnik.

4 THE WITNESS: Chris Kippes with the
5 Cuyahoga County Board of Health.

6 MS. JASIEWICZ: And who do we have
7 on the phone?

8 MS. HOLLY: Pam Holly, Morgan
9 Lewis, on behalf of the Teva Defendants.

10 MR. LANOSA: This is Michael Lanosa
11 from Covington & Burling on behalf of McKesson.

12 MR. SALIMBENE: Hey, Mike
13 Salimbene -- Michael Salimbene on behalf of
14 AmerisourceBergen, and I am with Reed Smith.

15 MS. RIGBERG: Hi. Karen Rigberg
16 with Arnold & Porter on behalf of the Endo and
17 Par Defendants.

18 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Would the court
19 reporter please swear in the witness.

20 CHRISTOPHER M. KIPPES, of lawful
21 age, called for examination as provided by the
22 Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, being by me
23 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
24 deposed and said as follows:

25 EXAMINATION OF CHRISTOPHER M. KIPPES

1 BY MS. JASIEWICZ:

2 Q. Good afternoon, Mr. Kippes.

3 Would you please state your name
4 for the record?

5 A. Sure. Christopher M. Kippes.

6 Q. And how is your last name spelled?

7 A. K-i-p-p-e-s.

8 Q. Where do you live?

9 A. I live at 9548 Taberna Lane in
10 Olmsted Township, Ohio.

11 Q. And how long have you lived there?

12 A. I have lived there 14 1/2 years.

13 Q. Have you ever been deposed before?

14 A. No. This is my first time.

15 Q. So we'll go over a couple of ground
16 rules for deposition just so that you're aware.

17 So the first is to please make sure
18 that you respond audibly so that the court
19 reporter, who's taking everything down, gets
20 everything that you say.

21 So in particular, if I ask you a
22 yes-or-no question, please respond "yes" or
23 "no" rather than just nodding or shaking your
24 head, or even saying "uh-huh."

25 Is that okay?

1 A. Yes, it is.

2 Q. Do you understand that you are
3 under oath?

4 A. Yes, I do.

5 Q. You understand that means you
6 should tell the truth, the whole truth, nothing
7 but the truth?

8 A. Yes, I do.

9 Q. One other thing on responding, the
10 tone might get conversational as we go on. We
11 just need to be careful not to talk over each
12 other, since the court reporter is taking down
13 everything we say. So I'll do my best not to
14 talk over you if you do your best not to talk
15 over me, and just wait until my question is
16 over before you answer.

17 Is that okay?

18 A. Yes, it is.

19 Q. Thanks.

20 I understand that you are the
21 director of epidemiology, surveillance, and
22 informatics at the Cuyahoga County Board of
23 Health; did I get that right?

24 A. Yes, you did.

25 Q. And is it okay if I abbreviate

1 epidemiology, surveillance, and informatics as
2 ESI?

3 A. That is fine.

4 Q. How long have you been the director
5 of ESI at the Cuyahoga County Board of Health?

6 A. Since approximately 2004.

7 Q. And what position did you
8 previously hold?

9 A. I previously held the position of
10 what -- our position structure at that time was
11 called researcher II/program manager, and that
12 was -- I joined the health department in April,
13 2000.

14 Q. And when you were a researcher, was
15 that also in the ESI division?

16 A. At that time, the structure was
17 different from what it is right now. I worked
18 inside of what we called the community health
19 department.

20 Q. Aside from your work at the
21 Cuyahoga County Board of Health, do you
22 currently have any other employment?

23 A. Yes, I do.

24 Q. What is that employment?

25 A. I am a part-time instructor. I am

1 County has sued several retail pharmacy chains
2 in this lawsuit?

3 A. No.

4 Q. So then I take it that you don't
5 have any information about why the retail
6 pharmacy chains were sued?

7 A. No.

8 Q. You haven't formed any opinions
9 about anything that any retail pharmacy chain
10 has done wrong?

11 A. This --

12 MR. MASON: Objection.

13 A. This is the first I'm hearing about
14 it, so I don't know. I can't form an opinion.
15 I haven't -- it's the first I'm hearing about
16 it.

17 Q. Let me try asking the question this
18 way. Do you have any personal knowledge of
19 anything that Walmart has done that you believe
20 has contributed to the opioid crisis in
21 Cuyahoga County?

22 A. No.

23 Q. And would the answer be the same
24 for all the other retail pharmacy chains? In
25 other words, you don't have any personal

1 knowledge of anything any retail pharmacy chain
2 has done that you believe has contributed to
3 the opioid crisis in Cuyahoga County?

4 A. No.

5 Q. In your work at the Board of
6 Health, have you ever relied on any public
7 statements that Walmart has made about opioids?

8 A. I'm -- I'm not aware of statements
9 they've made.

10 Q. So the answer to my question would
11 be no?

12 A. Could you repeat your question for
13 me? Sorry. It's getting late.

14 Q. Sure.

15 A. I'm -- I'm trying to stay with us
16 here.

17 Q. Yeah. That's okay. Fine. It's
18 absolutely. If -- if there's anything at all
19 that you need me to rephrase or that you don't
20 understand, I appreciate you telling me. I'm
21 trying -- you know, trying to be as fair and
22 straightforward as I can, so I want you to tell
23 me that.

24 What I was asking was, in your work
25 at the Board of Health, have you ever relied on

1 any public statement that Walmart has made
2 about opioids?

3 A. No.

4 Q. Have you ever relied on any public
5 statements from any other retail pharmacy
6 chain?

7 A. Related to the opioid?

8 Q. Uh-huh.

9 A. No.

10 Q. Have you ever done any business on
11 behalf of the County with Walmart?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Can you tell me about that?

14 A. Sure. It's emergency
15 preparedness-related, so now and again Walmart
16 would do emergency preparedness days, and they
17 asked us to show up and kind of stay at a table
18 and answer any questions on personal
19 preparedness. That's my recollection of any
20 involvement in -- in Walmart.

21 Q. Is that sort of like disaster
22 planning?

23 A. Yeah, the disaster planning.

24 Q. And so Walmart was helping the
25 County with disaster planning?